

Crossfire
entertains EHS
students



INSIDE
Marshall-
Moseley
announces
engagement



INSIDE
Elba Tiger Tim
Andrews waits
for a pass in
recent action



The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 26

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 13, 2001

1 Section, 44 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Governor Siegelman visits Elba for Dorsey opening announcement

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

It was a festive occasion Monday morning, Dec. 10, as the management of Dorsey Trailers played host to the public as they officially opened the local plant for business. On hand to assist CEO Chris Street and other company executives with the official duties were Alabama Governor Don Siegelman, State Treasurer Lucy Baxley, State Senator Jimmy Holley, State Representative Terry Spicer, Elba Mayor James Grimes and a number of other state, county and local officials.

The Elba High School band provided music for the occasion and several bus loads of school students from throughout the county were on hand for the speeches and the ribbon cutting ceremonies. Siegelman noted in his address to the crowd that the children "are what it is all about."

The Governor said, "Today is

an exciting day for Elba and an exciting day for Alabama. Economic development in rural Alabama is just as important as economic development in our large cities. New industries locating here have gotten the word that Alabama is simply a great place to do business."

Street recalled his first days in Elba, the warm reception he and his executives received from people they didn't know, and the positive reactions from state and local officials. He admitted to an inherent alarm when a politician asks "How can we help," but he has discovered to his astonishment that in Alabama it actually means they want to help.

The Dorsey CEO had praise first for the cooperation he got from the Elba Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Board and from Elba city officials. He continued with praise for Senator Jimmy Holley, Representative Terry Spicer and every state agency his company has had contact

with during the purchase and opening of the Elba trailer plant. He commended Governor Siegelman for his personal interest in getting the plant operational again. Street noted that State Treasurer Lucy Baxley and her staff worked to ease the workload and assist the company through the maze of necessary paperwork.

Not stopping there, Street pointed out the high quality of the workers in Alabama. He said he had heard that from so many people when he first became interested in purchasing the bankrupt facility and has come to know it first hand in his short time in the Elba community.

Holley expressed thanks to Street and said, "We stand behind you, not only at the beginning but ongoing."

Baxley, a native of Ashford, expressed admiration for the quality of the work force in the

Please See Dorsey, Page 8



Governor Don Siegelman congratulates Dorsey CEO Chris Street on his company's progress.

Elba City Council moves forward with airport project and subdivision plat approval

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council wound up its December meetings in one night Monday when Mayor James Grimes broke the business into two sessions to clear the slate for the Christmas holidays.

Chief R. W. Whitworth announced that Investigator Dalton Francis has turned in his

resignation and will accept a state position with the Department of Forensics in early January.

The council passed a required resolution in the ongoing efforts to get a grant to do a study of the "local airport." This study is necessary to get major federal funding for needed repairs and expansion of the local airport.

Monthly bills totaling

\$13,776.55 were approved for payment.

In the second meeting the council accepted the recommendation of the Zoning Board and approved a subdivision plat for land North of Highland Drive.

City Clerk Wylie Granlun reported progress on the drainage project in New Town and paving on Gibson Street.

During regular bimonthly meeting of Coffee County Commission

Second vote on sale of landfill receives same reaction by commissioners

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission met for its regular bimonthly meeting on Monday, Dec. 10, and again found the landfill issue to be a top priority of the meeting.

During a meeting held just five days earlier on Wednesday, Dec. 5, the commission split its vote concerning the sale of the

landfill to Waste Corporation of America, Inc. (WCA). Due to the tie vote during that meeting, no action was taken in regards to the sale of the landfill.

However, the commission found the issue to still be atop many minds during Monday morning meeting as representatives from WCA addressed the members.

Tom Fatjo Jr., chairman of WCA, was the first to speak to commissioners concerning his company's interest in attaining the Coffee County Landfill.

"I have to tell you that Coffee County has one of the best landfills I have ever seen," Fatjo said.

However, he said the concern of the landfill is whether it can remain profitable with direct competition - not whether the

county can build a good landfill and manage it well.

Fatjo said his interest in the Coffee County

Landfill began after a phone call was made indicating that the Coffee County

Commission was weighing its options concerning the landfill since the private owned company of BFI was opening a landfill in Brundidge.

He gave commissioners a brief history by saying he went into the waste business in 1966 and has built his business by responding to the needs of a community during the time

of emergency. He said WCA is a financially strong company.

"Today is the day for a public-private partnership," said Fatjo.

His remarks were backed by Crum Foshie, director of corporate affairs for WCA, who said he saw Commissioner Robert Stephens a couple of years ago and asked if he thought the county would be interested in selling the landfill.

He said Stephens' response was not because the county was doing really well with the landfill. However, Foshie said he received a phone call a few months ago indicating the county was concerned about the situation with BFI opening its landfill in Brundidge.

"I would hate to see the county make a bad decision after doing such a good job," Foshie said. "I ask you (commission) to reconsider selling the landfill."

Commission chairman Tom Grimsley said he would like to renew the motion made during the Wednesday, Dec. 5, meeting to allow the county attorney to proceed with the sale of the landfill and its equipment to WCA based on the negotiated contract.

His motion received a second from Commissioner Bernest Brooks.

"I feel an obligation to the county to look after what we have," said Commissioner Doug Dalrymple. "I can't in good faith vote for this."

In explanation, he said he certainly would not sell his farm under the conditions of the con-

Please See CCC, Page 8

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8 of 8 SAFF

LIFE IS AN ONGOING PROJECT

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CHRISTMAS IN THE FOREST Christmas in Elba moved to the Forest Lake Subdivision last Saturday evening, Dec. 8, as the Elba Chamber of Commerce and residents of Forest Lake Drive treated guests to the magical "Christmas in the Forest." The guests took buggy rides down the drive where residents had decorated their homes and yards with an array of Christmas lights and designs. The residents also presented live nativity scenes, sang Christmas Carols and took time to say Merry Christmas to everyone attending the event. As the guests reached the end of the road, they were treated to refreshments before catching the next buggy back to their vehicles. As indicated above, the guests were full of smiles as they took their ride through the Christmas forest, and the first time event was deemed an overwhelming success as it continued approximately two hours longer than expected in order to allow everyone in attendance an opportunity to take their buggy ride into the forest.

Area Happenings

RELAY FOR LIFE MEETING On Thursday, Dec. 13 (TODAY), dedicated individuals will unite to begin planning WCA's involvement in the largest cancer-fighting event in the nation...Relay for Life. This organizational meeting will be held at 5:15 p.m. at the Elba Public Library. Anyone who is interested in helping to plan this first-time event in Elba is welcome. For more information, please call Annie Yoder at the American Cancer Society office in Dothan at (334) 794-0600.

EXTENSION OFFICE HOURS The Coffee County Extension office in New Bricketon will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from Thursday, Dec. 20, until Thursday, Jan. 3, 2002. The office will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on the 3rd.

LIVE NATIVITY SCENE The Elba United Methodist Church will present a live nativity scene on Friday, Dec. 21, and Saturday, Dec. 22, from 6-8 p.m. in the vacant lot beside the church. Everyone is invited.

BOOK DRIVE The local girl scouts community is currently conducting a book drive to benefit the library programs of at-risk schools. Books are being accepted for elementary and high school reading levels, and collection points are the Elba United Methodist Church and ZC Express. The book drive will continue through March.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Well, it happened. California Congressman Gary Condit braved the bandwagon and qualified for re-election on the afternoon of the very last day, just beating the deadline. The long time Democrat was the topic of every news program and talk show, before September 11th, but was booted off the charts, and the news, after the terrorist attacks. Even though the young intern that got him all the heat still hasn't been found and even though California Democrats urged him not to do so, etc., etc., Condit likes the job and or the perks so much that he is willing to buck the opposition. That one will be interesting to us, even though we can't vote nor nay in his race.

Our telephone and e-mail and fax machine all lit up last week as the news got out about State Superintendent of Education Ed Richardson's remedy for school funding. Of course it was shock treatment, trying to capitalize on the success. Mobile County had in getting a tax increase past the voters. This is very apparent if you heard or read the exact wording of his speech. Richardson recommended discontinuing extracurricular activities like sports and band that do not pay their own way. He then advocated consolidating some smaller school systems, including Elba. As if that wasn't enough to get folks upset, he urged the various school boards to close any small school with less than 264 students. That in itself would get 130 schools statewide. In case he had not made everyone in his listening audience mad, he added cutting off the air conditioning in summer and having students wear sweaters in winter. All this on the heels of news that a West Alabama school system that the state department under Richardson took over, "run right" must now repay many thousands of dollars to the federal government because the state folks used federally furnished classroom instruction money to build new buildings. Even some of us news hounds know better than to do that, so just how much advice should anyone take from the so-called experts at the Alabama Department of Education?

Even though our take on his words was just so much shock treatment, there are real problems with school funding shortfalls in the State of Alabama, as well as nationwide. You can blame any of a number of things for this crisis, but the most important thing now is to fix it. Even if the Alabama lawmakers pass the rescue bills being promoted by Governor Siegelman, exactly as requested, it is only a temporary fix. Long term changes must be made or this proration will remain a recurring event.

One thing Richardson's speech did was shake up a bunch of students in the Elba school system. Many of them thought he was advocating actually closing the schools themselves and were almost to the point of tears. All that is settled down now and both Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer have addressed groups of Elba students, who assured them Richardson's threats were not going to become a reality "not on our watch."

Life can dish out some harsh lessons, both to people "who asked for it" and those who are just victims. We don't personify known a single one of the terrorists, who have their hands fighting in Afghanistan, or any of the other battle zones in the Middle East. Yet we see the graphic pictures of the death, read about many others, and speculate on just how many of those people died and were buried without family members, mothers, fathers, wives, or children, even knowing what happened to them. How long can this family member - this human being just like each of us - wait and hope for the return, or news of their fate, of a loved one. Most of the time these family members had no say in the decision to "fight to the death." Had no decision at all in the whole vicious circle, but must suffer directly, instantly, and forever from the ill-fated decision and actions of their warrior turned victim. We can imagine that at least some of these people could have been contributing members of society, actually improving the lot of the world's citizens, yet they are now dead and have left family members and other humans in even worse economic shape than they could have ever dreamed.

Hey, it was great to witness the events of Monday as Governor Siegelman visited Dorsey Trailers! A large crowd was on hand to share the happy occasion and Dorsey management did themselves, and the community, proud as they acted as the perfect hosts. There is no doubt that the Governor of Alabama knows where Elba is and he remembers the positive and friendly reception he gets every time he passes through town.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of December 3, 2001, through December 9, 2001. They were: Homer Coleman, Deora Caldwell, Melinda Jones, Pearl Culver, James Smith, Frances Johnson, George Parker, Walter Parks, Trudie Jackson, Richard, Boutwell, Wanda Jackson, Mildred Kelley, Kimberly McClain, Marlee Goodwin and Harro James Wambles, Melinda Lee, Wilkerson.

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EDITORIAL

Congress honors the heroes of Flight 93

by Congressman Terry Everett
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
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(202) 225-2901

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution honoring the crew and passengers of United Airlines Flight 93. It is widely believed that their faithful devotion to wrest control of their doomed airliner from Al Qaeda hijackers, spared the United States Capitol from near certain calamity.

For all Americans, the tragic events of September 11 are impossible to forget and have affected our view of the world and our place in it. For those who lost loved ones on that day, the pain is of course even greater. Our nation has rallied around and responded to the need of these citizens and we'll continue to support them as America seeks healing.

There is another dimension to September 11, which has a special meaning for the many who work in or visit our nation's Capitol. Civilian Americans died on that day to save a national symbol and to defiantly say "No to terrorism." The men and women who fate chose to place on United Airlines Flight 93 from Newark, NJ to San Francisco on the morning of September 11, 2001 likely did not know that they would earn a place of distinction in American history, yet their decision to make a final stand against terror likely saved hundreds of lives in Washington, DC, and protected from harm our country's most famous building, the United States Capitol.

We who work in the U.S. Capitol and all Americans who hold dear this shrine of American democracy and freedom owe a special debt to the passengers of Flight 93 who knew what tragedy had befallen them, and still summoned the character and courage to stop the hijackers from accomplishing their mission of evil.

House Concurrent Resolution 232, of which I was a cosponsor, passed on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2001. "On September 11, 2001, the passengers and crew of hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 possibly averted the use of that aircraft on a further terror-

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, December 3, 2001, investigated the following incidents: two for violation of a restraining order, one giving a false name, four for theft of property, one criminal trespassing, two for burglary, one horse play at school, one car incident, one possession of a forged instrument, one D.U.I. and one harassment.

The following arrests were made: one for burglary, three for failure to appear and one for minor in possession of tobacco. Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for no proof of insurance, one for violation of the seat belt law, one for an expired tag, two for violation of the noise ordinance, one for driver's license not in possession and three for speeding.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 - River stage - 7.05 feet (6:31 a.m.); Alarm at NASCO Equipment (6:52 a.m.); Routine activity.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4 - River stage - 6.93 feet (6:12 a.m.); Minor wreck at traffic light by Methodist Church (8:49 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5 - River stage - 6.80 feet (6:39 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 349 (10:28 p.m.); Routine activity.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6 - River stage - 6.72 feet (6:52 a.m.); Domestic in progress reported on Troy Hwy, past the radio station (8:02 p.m.); Routine activity.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7 - River stage - 6.66 feet (7:06 a.m.); Loud and excessive music reported at SouthTrust Bank parking lot (10:22 p.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 - River stage - 6.62 feet (7:38 a.m.); Routine activity.

a.m.); Civil disturbance (fighting) reported at 427 Williams St. (8:37 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 623 Jackson Ave. (10:40 p.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to Hwy. 167 (12:30 a.m.); River stage - 6.59 feet (6:46 a.m.); Alarm activated at 2557 Taylor Mill Road (7:35 a.m.); Disturbance reported at the car wash on Hickman Ave. (10:38 a.m.); Routine activity.

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SIGN DEDICATION...A special ceremony was held at New Brockton High School on Wednesday, Dec. 5, as the school's newest marker was officially dedicated. The new school sign shown above was paid for through funds raised by school clubs and a donation from the New Brockton Alumni Association. According to school officials, the Student Government Association has been saving funds for the project during the past three years. Those attending the sign dedication ceremony included local beauty queens, members of the student clubs and organizations at New Brockton High School, members of the alumni association, New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole and New Brockton High School Principal Dale Kelley. (Picture courtesy of The Southeast Sun)

Annette Griswold attended AASB annual convention December 6-8

Gov. Don Siegelman recently made a personal plea for support of his plan for funding the state's education funding crisis to almost 400 local education leaders, including a local school board member. Siegelman, who is pushing state lawmakers to pass legislation to close corporate tax loopholes, made the pitch during the recent Alabama Association of School Boards' annual convention in Birmingham. Without the changes he is proposing, Siegelman said, the state's education funding crisis would be almost certainly met with face additional funding cuts this fiscal year.

Coffee County Board of Education member Annette Griswold says among the almost 400 school board members and superintendents from across the state on hand to hear Siegelman's plea, she supported the funding plan. Griswold, during the AASB convention Dec. 6-8, Griswold and other participants also heard state Superintendent Dr. Ed Richardson explain the state Board of Education's plan.

C.C. DHR looking to expand Family Coaches Program

Since welfare reform passed, the lives of families are changing a great deal. Welfare reform is set time limits on TANF, which was formerly known as AFDC (Aide to Families with Dependent Children). Families now have a lifetime limit of five years of TANF. Families were also given two years to find and keep a job or participate in some form of work activity. To assist individuals in meeting the requirements, each county DHR office operates a JOBS Program. The program is designed to help individuals learn job skills, locate employment, retain employment, etc.

Through the JOBS Program, the Family Coaches Program was developed. The Family Coaches Program is supported by a collaboration between the Alabama Department of Human Resources, Family Guidance Center, and WSPA-TV. The mission of the Family Coaches Program is to encourage churches, civic organizations and others to become involved with helping families who are receiving public assistance achieve self-sufficiency and a better quality of life.

Anyone can help by sharing time, talents, resources, and community spirit with a family by becoming a coach. Coaches can be either individuals, groups, or organizations. As a Family Coach, a person will play a vital role in the life of a family by helping them to achieve greater self-sufficiency. Coaches help families obtain support services and to provide encouragement and emotional support. Other ways for coaches to help are: transportation, writing a resume, job interviewing, personal appearance, budgeting, life skills, and tutoring.

"Feed a man a fish, he eats for a day. Teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime."

Coffee County Department of Human Resources is asking for help in expanding the Family Coaches Program. Call Mary Flowers at 348-2020 for more information.

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CARD OF THANKS

KELLEY FAMILY
We would like to express our deepest appreciation for the kindness displayed during Hollis' recent hospitalization and illness. The inflow of food, cards, calls and visits has made us realize how truly blessed we are to live in a wonderful Christian community that is home to great people with big hearts.

Again, thanks to all our friends and family for all your acts of kindness and continued thoughts and prayers. We pray that God will continue to bless you. Sincerely, Hollis and Doris Kelley and family

12/13chg

PURVIS FAMILY

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, food, phone calls, your thoughts and prayers during this time of sickness. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is truly appreciated.

Dr. Mitchell Purvis and family

12/13chg

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Obituaries

JAMIE CARL ODOM

Mr. Jamie Carl Odom, age 27, of Elba, died Sunday, Dec. 2, 2001, at Southeast Alabama Medical Center in Dothan.

Funeral services were held Dec. 4, 2001 at New Haven Baptist Church with John Granger officiating. Burial followed at Bethlehem Cemetery with Searcy Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Odom was preceded in death by his father-in-law, James Davis.

Survivors include his wife: Cindy Odom, Elba; three sons: Dustin Nathaniel Odom, Dillin Gabriel Odom, Dawson Samuel Odom; all of Elba; his parents, Larry and Cathy Odom, Elba; two sisters and brothers-in-law: Daphne and Jamie Walden, New Brockton, Holly and Johnny Watson, New Brockton; one brother and sister-in-law: Richie and Kelly Odom, Kinross; his grandparents: Carlton and Lenora Reeves; James and Alene Odom, all of Elba; his

mother-in-law: Eunice Davis, New Brockton; and several nieces and nephews.

TOMARAS LAMON DEVERIDGE

Tomaras Lamon Deveridge, age 22, of Troy, died Nov. 21, 2001.

Funeral services were held Nov. 25, 2001 at Goshen First Baptist Church in Goshen with Rev. Jonas Rogers officiating and Harrison Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include parents: Tommy and Joyce Deveridge, Goshen, Ala.; one sister: Toni

Lenae Deveridge, Goshen, Ala.; two grandmothers: Josephine Deveridge, Goshen, Ala.; Maymie Jones, Shady Grove, Ala.; and several aunts, uncles and friends.

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4 PC. BEDROOM SUITE Dresser, Nightstand, Mirror, Headboard, Complete \$699 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL WASHER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL WASH. DRYER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL 14.6 cu. ft. MARCHMART CHEST FREEZER SALE \$228
TRUCKLOAD SALE NEW 5-PIECE LIVINGROOM SUITE Sofa, Loveseat, Chair, Coffee Table, End Table, Reg. \$1198 SALE \$398	WHIRLPOOL WASHER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL WASH. DRYER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL 14.6 cu. ft. MARCHMART CHEST FREEZER SALE \$228
MATTRESS SALE Queen - \$34.95 Full - \$29.95 Twin - \$24.95 King - \$49.95	WHIRLPOOL WASHER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL WASH. DRYER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL 14.6 cu. ft. MARCHMART CHEST FREEZER SALE \$228
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6 PC. DINETTE Reg. \$208 SALE \$119.95	WHIRLPOOL WASHER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL WASH. DRYER Heavy Duty, Select Load Size & Temp. Was \$248 SALE \$165	WHIRLPOOL 14.6 cu. ft. MARCHMART CHEST FREEZER SALE \$228

KING'S FURNITURE & APPLIANCES
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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

New books in Elba Public Library listed....

The Elba Public Library has the following new books available:

NEW ADULT BOOKS

FICTION

- Alexander, Victoria-The Marriage Lesson (LP)
- Anderson, Catherine-Baby Love
- Beverly, Jo-The Dragon's Bride (LP)
- Brinich, Maeve-Silver Wedding (LP)
- Blue, Judy-Smart Women
- Churchill, Jill-Someone to Watch Over Me
- Cornwell, Patricia-Isle of Dogs
- Estleman, Loren D-The Master Executioner (Western LP)
- Felding, Joy-Gold Avenue
- Gardner, Eric-Stanley-The Case of the Shoplifters Shoe (PB-LP)
- Grisham, John-Skippering Christmas
- Hannah, Kristin-Angel Falls
- Harris, E. Lynn-Any Way the Wind Blows
- Isaacs, Susan-Long Time No

See Kleyras, Lisa-Suddenly You (LP)

LaHave, Time-Desecration (2 copies)

Loring, Phil-As Certain Crossroad

Martin, Steve-The Jury

McKinney, Megan-Moonlight Becomes Her

McKinney, Megan-Still of the Night (LP)

Natural Suspect-A collection of mystery stories

Paterson, James-Sunshine's Diary for Nicholas (LP)

Patterson, James-Violets Are Blue

Roberts, Nora-Fish Hearts (LP)

Roberts, Nora-The Stanslaski Sisters (LP)

Sanford, John-Chosen Prey (LP)

Steel, Daniel-The Kiss

Van Wier, Laura-Trouble Becomes Her

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ADULT BOOKS

McCullough, David-John Adams (Biography-LP)

82 Patches of Godlight: Father Tim's Favorite Quotes (Midford series)

6498 Mace-the 36-Hour Day: A Family Guide to Caring for Persons With Alzheimer Disease, Related Dementing Illnesses, and Memory Loss in Later Life

81354 Evans, Richard-Paul-The Christmas Bos Miracle: My Spiritual Journey of Destiny, Healing and Hope

REF The World Almanac and

Maron, Margaret-Uncle Tom's Cabin

Sparks, Nicholas-A Bend in the Road

White, Randy-Wayne Shark River

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NONFICTION

Book of Facts 2002

Deaver, Michael K-A Different Drummer: My Years With Ronald Reagan

George, Anne-Murder Shoots the Bull

Gould, John-Tales From Rhapsody House or, What They Don't Tell You About Senior Living

Maron, Margaret-Uncle Tom's Cabin

Sparks, Nicholas-A Bend in the Road

White, Randy-Wayne Shark River

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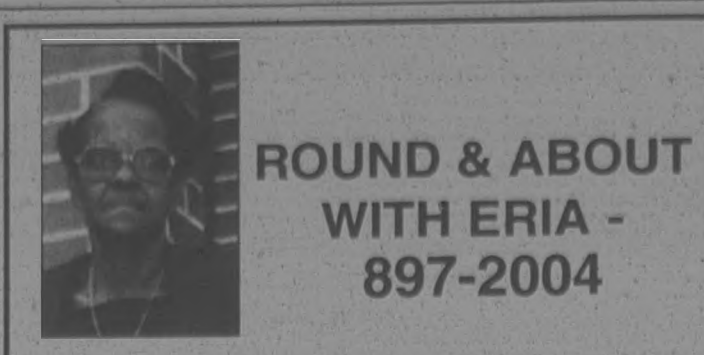
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ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA - 897-2004

Scripture: Revelation 14:1-20

***Thinking of you, praying for you: Mildred Kelley, Evelyn Manning, Melissa Kelley, Minister Roderick Ridaux, Annie L. Williams, Rev. E. Magwood, Annie Belcher, Johnnie Daniels, Lela Tynan and Robert Phillips

***December Birthdays and Anniversaries: Calvin Carpenter, Marietta Carpenter, Joan (Bass) Henderson, Ronnie and Charlotte Caldwell, Anthony Kelley, Mary A. Hooks, Shane Williams and Grover Belcher Sr.

***Fifty State Rally of Clay Hill Baptist Church: Coffee County Alabama - Rev. David Boykin, Minister Rev. J.C. Evans, guest minister, Holly Springs Baptist Church, Spring Hill, Ala.

***Christmas Sun Rise Service will be held at Shady Grove A.M.E. Church, Elba, Ala., December 25, 2001 at 6:00 a.m.

Rev. Fred Flowers, pastor

***The Mulberry Missionary District Minister, Deacons and Layman Union will meet with the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Gary Barnes, pastor

Today is a good day; be grateful!

ERIA

Christmas Cantata to be presented at Newbia

Newbia Baptist Church, to present Christmas Cantata "Start at the Manager Then Go

To The Cross" Sunday evening December 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend

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EHS Faculty Spotlight

by Gavin Mauldin

This week's featured teacher is Mr. Larry Goodson. He is the Auto Science Technology teacher in the vocational program. He has been teaching at Elba High School for 13 years. Mr. Goodson received his Bachelor of Science degree in Career/Technology from Athens State College.

He has a wife Charlotte, son Jim, daughter Stacey, and two grand-boys. He has been a firefighter for 29 years and is currently the fire chief of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Goodson is also the owner and operator of Goodson's Garage.

His hobbies include watching NASCAR events, any auto racing, and street rods, as well as going camping.

Mr. Goodson became a teacher to help young people and share his knowledge with them. If he could be anything else it would be retired.

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Mr.

LIFESTYLES

Small business counseling available at Ft. Rucker

Representatives from the Small Business Development Center at Troy State University's main campus will visit the Fort Rucker ACS Family Member Employment Assistance Program center Thursday, Dec. 6, from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Interested persons should call 334-355-3919 to set up an appointment.

Consulting services for small businesses are provided every other month at the ACS center at Fort Rucker by the SBDC-TSU. These services are provided at no charge.



Rev. & Mrs. J.L. Edgar

Edgar's to be honored on 60th wedding anniversary

A 60th Wedding Anniversary Reception for Rev. and Mrs. J.L. Edgar is planned for December 22, 2001, from 2 until 4 p.m. at the American Legion Hall on Hwy. 87 North in Elba. The couple is being honored with the reception by their family and will renew their vows under the officiating of Rev. Hollis Bradley. All family and friends are invited to celebrate with Reverend and Mrs. Edgar.



Season Greetings

BRIAR PATCH AFTER CHRISTMAS SALE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Sale Starts Thursday, December 13th
SAVE 15% STOREWIDE
ALL MERCHANDISE 15% OFF

Bridal Registry
Cary Clark & Craig Perry-Wedding 12/22/01
Kelly Brannon & Jake Stokes Wedding 12/23/02



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Josie D's

formerly Benton's

Phone 897-1253

located at 989 Alabama Highway 203, between Whitman's and Factory Connection

Now Serving Breakfast

From 6 a.m. until 10 a.m. Daily
Your Breakfast Cooked to Order!!



Same old fashioned Hamburgers -

Same great desserts

Check out the many new items on our menu !!!

Josie D's

John & Tammy Dorsey, new owners

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SAR to hold election of new officers

Annual election of officers will be held by members of the Wiregrass Chapter Sons of the American Revolution, when they meet starting at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 13 in Po'Folks Restaurant on Boll Weevil Circle, Enterprise.

Current President John R. Wallace named Compatriots Richard A. Kemp, chairman, John Ray Fuller and Louis Dale Kline members of the nominating committee, and asked they present a slate of proposed officers during the coming meeting.

The 2002 officers elected will be sworn during an annual chapter meeting Jan. 17, 2002, by National Trustee Rod Hildreth, also a past state president. Hildreth will speak on the ancestral dwellings of the family of George Washington during the meeting.

Wallace said all active and former SAR members and their guests are welcome to attend the December session as well as area residents who desire information on membership requirements for the National Society.

New Brockton native inducted into Troy State honor society



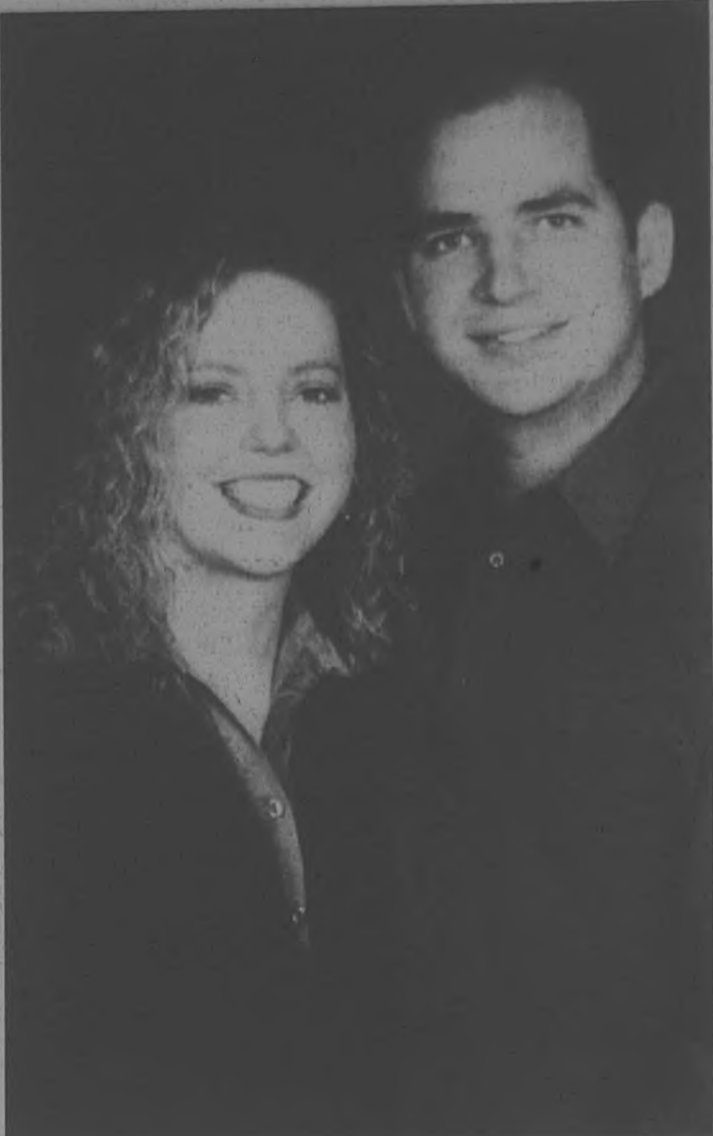
Britany Mobley

Vietnam widows may be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation Program payments

Many surviving widows of Vietnam Veterans could be eligible for the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation Program payments, known as DIC, but are not receiving this benefit due to their being unaware of the VA laws governing presumptive service-connected chronic diseases.

Widows of a Vietnam Veteran who had diabetes at time of death and this contributed to his/her death even though he/she was not rated by VA at the time of death are entitled to this benefit.

Unmarried widows in this category, please contact the local Veterans Affairs Office in Coffee County, contact Robert Lolley at 894-5858 or drop by the office complex in New Brockton.



Miss Marshall & Mr. Moseley

Marshall-Moseley wedding planned for February 16, 2002

Mrs. Barbara Marshall, of Valrico, Florida, announces the engagement of her daughter, Constance Anne Marshall, to Mark Wesley Moseley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Moseley of Elba, Alabama. She is the daughter of the late Andrew Marshall Sr.

The bride-elect is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fletcher, and Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Marshall, Sr., all of New Rochelle, New York. She is a graduate of Bloomingdale High School, Valrico, Florida and a graduate of Troy State University with a master's degree in Criminal Justice. She currently owns and operates a business in Prattville, Alabama.

The future groom is the grandson of Mrs. Pearl Moseley and the late Roy Moseley of Elba, Alabama and the late Mr. and Mrs. O.S. Nowell, Sr., of Dothan, Alabama. He is a graduate of Elba High School and a graduate of Troy State University with a master's degree in Criminal Justice. He is presently employed as a graphic illustrator with K-Mar Industries at Ft. Rucker, Alabama and also works with the family business in Elba.

A February 16, 2002 wedding is planned for 6:00 p.m. in the St. Andrews Methodist Church in Brandon, Florida. The reception will be held following the wedding at Buckhorn Country Club.



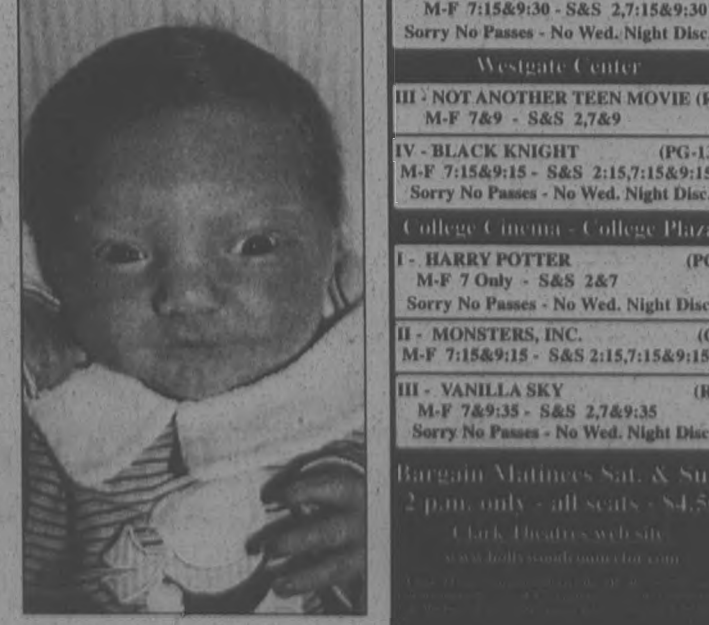
Zion Chapel Girl Scout Troop earns Leadership Pin

On November 10th, the fourteen members of Zion Chapel Junior Girl Scout Troop #484 held a Fall Fun Day at Camp Hummingbird in Elba to earn their leadership pin. The girls in the troop had to pick an activity, plan the event and run the days activities to show their leader that they had developed necessary skills that it takes to be a good leader. In order to do this, they invited Girl Scout Troops from Coffee, Geneva and Covington counties to participate in a day camp at Hummingbird. The day activities included hayride, arts and crafts, an obstacle course, nature hikes, games, lunch and campfire songs. They had an excellent attendance, hosting 151 Girl Scouts and 39 adults. The member of Junior Girl Scout Troop is Brittany Cardwell, Ashley Parrish, Courtney Grant, Penny Parker, Marlene Dickey, Brittney Terry, Jenale Gladness, Alexis Messina, Jessica King, Chelsea Freeman, Megan Boudreaux, Candice Allen, Kayla Crook and Nicole Mauldin. The leaders for the troop are Carolyn Mauldin and Diana Spivey.

NEW ARRIVAL

DYLAN SCOTT DAWSON

Scotty and Kristy Dawson of Elba announce the birth of their son, Dylan Scott Dawson. He was born on November 12, 2001 at the Enterprise Medical Center. He weighed 7lbs. 2oz. and was 19 1/2 inches long. His grandparents are Brenda Nelson, Brenda and Lucian Polk all of Elba; Ron and Kim Dawson of Montgomery; and Charles and Wilma Mitchell of Enterprise. His great grandparents are Gaston and Merle Spivey of Elba and also Lila Dawson of Sterling, Illinois. Dylan was welcomed home by his two brothers, Blake, age 6, and Tyler, age 3.



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DEC. 14-18

Enterprise Shopping Center

I - BEHIND ENEMY LINES (PG-13)

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

II - OCEAN'S ELEVEN (PG-13)

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

Westgate Center

III - NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE (R)

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

IV - BLACK KNIGHT (PG-13)

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

Enterprise - Coffee Plaza

I - HARRY POTTER

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

II - MONSTERS, INC.

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

III - VANILLA SKY

M-F 7:00-11:35 - \$4.50-7:00-11:35

Sorry No Passes - No Wed. Night Disc.

Bargain Matinee Sat. & Sun.

2 p.m. only - all seats \$4.50

Clark Theatres not on

Clark Theatres not on

LIFESTYLES

NEW ARRIVALS



Lee and Nalani Coleman of Athens, Ohio, announce the birth of their sons, **WILLIAM GRANT KALAHEO COLEMAN**, on November 14th, 2001. William was 5 pounds, 15 ounces, and David was 5 pounds, 9 ounces. Both were 19 inches long.

Farris-Fuller wedding planned for Saturday, December 15th

Mr. and Mrs. Ricky A. Farris request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Carrie, to Grady Malcolm Fuller on Saturday, December 15, 2001, 6:00 p.m.

Troy Elementary School Orff Ensemble to perform at Zion Chapel on Friday, Dec. 14th. The Troy Elementary School Orff Ensemble, directed by Mrs. Teresa Sims, is set to perform a concert at Zion Chapel School's auditorium on Friday, December 14 at 9:30 a.m.

The Orff Ensemble is embarking on a small tour of schools in southeast Alabama in preparation for their January performance at the Alabama Music Educators Association annual conference in Tuscaloosa, Mrs. Sims is the only Orff certified teacher in this part of the state and her groups have met with statewide and regional acclaim.

New Arrivals



JACKSON CHAD TINDOL



Clyde L. Sadie

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Kaylee Marie Fundum celebrates first birthday

Kaylee Marie Fundum of Dothan celebrated her first birthday on November 24. Kaylee is the daughter of Shane and Anissa (Brooks) Fundum. Grandparents are Tommy and Julia Brooks of Elba, Gene and Patty Fundum of Huntsville and Pat Cooper of Roanoke, Virginia.

Kaylee and her guests enjoyed birthday cake, chips and dip, cookies, and punch. Those helping her celebrate on her special day were Mommy and Daddy, Granny and Pappaw, Pops and Patty, Grammy, Scott, Stephanie, and Mac McIntosh; Beverly, Caitlin, and Tristin Tindell; and Larry, Debra, Paula, and Hunter Pope.



Kaylee Marie Fundum

NEW ARRIVAL

CHANDLER MADYSEN

Nikki Smith of Opp and Jason Oglesby of Kinston announce the birth of their daughter, Chandler Madyson. She was born on November 23, 2001 at Mizell Memorial Hospital in Opp. She weighed 6 lbs. and 14 oz. and was 19 1/4 inches long. Her maternal grandparents are Jim and Shirley Bringham of Opp. Her paternal grandparents are Kenneth Oglesby of Kinston and Susan McHenry of Opp.



Chandler Madyson

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ALL NEW OR TRANSFER OBSTETRIC PATIENTS GET:
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OPEN Sunday Dec. 23rd 1:00-5:30 PM

12 Days Til Christmas

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SPORTS

Views from....
THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Christmas is creeping nearer every day and when I looked under the Christmas tree over the weekend I noticed that there wasn't one single present anywhere to be found. Part of the fun of Christmas is the anticipation and the fun of trying to figure out what is in the presents. So, it is past time for us to get out and do some Christmas shopping that will help the girls get in the Christmas spirit.

PASSING ALONG SOME NOTES....

*** The Elba Tigers claimed two big wins on the court last week to improve their record to 3-1 and have now won three straight games after their season opening upset loss to Georgiana. Last week's wins came over arch-rivals Opp and New Brockton, and once again the Tigers used their inside power to lead the way. John Mitchell scored a total of 40 points in the two wins and continued to lead Elba on both ends of the court, while sophomore Quinton Gavin made his varsity debut Friday night and scored 21 points in the Tigers' big win over New Brockton. This year's Tigers have much more than just their inside power, and before long their opponents will find out the Tigers can also light it up from outside. When that happens, look out.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers dropped two games last week to see their record slip to 2-2, and while this year's squad is still a very good team, it is a team that will have to play well every time out to win. The Lady Tigers are solid at guard, have power inside and can run up and down the court for all four quarters. However, last year's banner season is a thing of the past and this year the Lady Tigers' opponents are looking forward to getting revenge. The Elba girls will be okay and will grab more than their share of wins, but nothing will come easy.

*** Both the Elba Tigers and Elba Lady Tigers will head up the road to Zion Chapel next week for the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament, and while anything can happen in a tournament, a look at the bracket would make one believe that the tournament finals will actually be held on the opening night. The Elba Tigers and Kinston Bulldogs will meet in the boys' opener, and there can be little doubt that the (3-1) Tigers and (4-2) Bulldogs are the best two teams in the field, since Zion Chapel is winless and Arton is also struggling. Over in the girls division, the (2-2) Elba Lady Tigers will tangle with the (3-3) Georgiana Lady Panthers in the opening round, while on the other side of the bracket are Zion Chapel and Kinston, both winless on the young season. The tournament will be fun to watch and the players will all get some valuable experience, but look for the close games to be on Monday.

*** I went up to Birmingham last Friday to watch two of the state championship games and will admit it was worth the ride. The Gordo-Leroy match-up was boring as neither team could mount any offense, but the Benjamin Russell-Homewood game was exciting from the start, and kept even a neutral observer standing for much of the contest. I am still not crazy about the idea of having all the games played in Birmingham, but the atmosphere inside Legion Field was great, and the excitement of winning a state championship still brings chills to all true high school football fans. If you ever get the chance, make the trip up and watch a couple of games. You will enjoy it.

*** While on the subject of high school football, Elba's Coach Mike Waters gave me a copy of the Tigers' schedule for next season and it may well be one of the toughest ever for the men in black and gold. The Tigers will open the season at home against 1st power Brantley, then will head up to Lowndes County in week #2 for a first-ever battle with Central, of Hayneville, W.S. Neal will come to Tiger Stadium in the third week, and after a fourth week trip up to Brundidge to tangle with Pike County, the Tigers will be at home in week #5 and #6 when they host Lawrence and R.R. Miller. Elba will travel back to Straughn in the seventh week of the season; they will celebrate homecoming in week #8 against Calhoun. The final two games will be on the road as the Tigers travel to Clarke County in week #9 and over to Geneva County to close out the regular season. Elba's Region 1 opponents this season will include Central, W.S. Neal, Pike County, T.R. Miller, Straughn, Calhoun and Clarke County, which means the Tigers will have to beat some of the state's top 34 teams just to make the playoffs.

*** The long college football season finally drew to an end last week for the Division I teams, and the wild and wacky finish continued until the very end with LSU surprising Tennessee to claim the SEC championship. The LSU win sent the bowl championship series computers into a quandary trying to calculate which team would meet Miami for the national title, but no matter what team it picks, a Miami loss in the Rose Bowl will result in co-champs, and make the BCS useless.

*** Minnesota's Gov. Jesse Ventura may not be the smallest governor in the nation, but I had to agree with him last week when he gazed at Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig and questioned the figures that showed the major league owners lost over \$344 million last season. The Atlanta Braves took in over \$62 million in gate receipts and had 2,823,494 fans come to their games, but still claimed a net operating loss of over \$23 million. When a team's accountants depreciate a team's players and look for added losses, it isn't hard to figure out the huge losses put on display last week. However, if Atlanta really did lose over \$23 million, where did it find the money to sign Javy Lopez to a \$6 million a year contract or John Smoltz to a \$10 million a year pact? Like Gov. Ventura stated, the owners didn't get rich by losing millions of dollars watching people play baseball.

*** In closing, Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator called up last week to find out what happened to his final picks of the year, and all I could tell him was that I forgot to put them in. The local high school football guesser hit on 4 of 6 state title picks, and closed out the season with a record of 348-71. Not bad!

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Claim third straight win

Tigers bury 'Brockton 69-40

The Elba Tigers continued their early-season surge Friday night with a big 69-40 win over the New Brockton Gamecocks, in Elba.

The win was the third straight for the Tigers and upped their record to 3-1, while the Gamecocks slipped to 1-8 with the loss.

Elba came out cold from the floor in the opening stanza and hit only 4 of 18 shots, but did make the most of their baskets and was effective at the foul line as the Tigers pulled out to a 15-9 lead.

The Gamecocks pulled within 17-13 early in the second quarter on a Daniel Roberts jumper. However, Elba turned countless Gamecock turnovers into easy buckets as the Tigers went on a 14-4 run to go in at the half with a 31-17 advantage.

The Tigers began to pound the ball inside in the third quarter and led by Quinton Gavin and John Mitchell put twenty points on the scoreboard as they stretched their lead to 51-29 with one stanza left.

The final quarter was simply a repeat of the first three as the Tigers got the ball inside and dominated play on both ends of the court to pull away and claim the lopsided 69-40 win.

Quinton Gavin scored 21 points and John Mitchell added 18 to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson scored 10. Ryan

Kinsaul scored 7 points to lead New Brockton.

EL 15 16 20 18 - 69
NB 9 8 12 11 - 40

Elba (69): English 4, Gavin 21, Burks 2, Williams 4, Daniels 2, Henderson 10, Brooks 8, Mitchell 18.

N.B. (40): Williams 4, Kinsaul 7, Roberts 4, Griffin 5, Hart 4, Slawson 4, Danford 4, Harbuck 6.

(B GAME)

The Elba Tiger B team pulled ahead late and held on to edge past New Brockton 30-28, Friday night in Elba.

The Tigers trailed 8-2 after one quarter, but began a rally late in the half and by the end of the third quarter had cut the Gamecock advantage to 24-22.

Elba then outscored New Brockton 8-4 in the fourth quarter to pull out the exciting 30-28 win.

Justin Allen and Quinton Robinson both scored 7 points to lead Elba, while Donnell Foster led the Gamecocks with 8 points.

Elba (30): Skinner 6, Allen 7, Daniels 5, Foushee 5, Robinson 7.

N.B. (28): Owens 2, Foster 8, Foster 5, Parish 7, Herring 2, Flowers 2.



Elba Tiger Tim Andrews (30) waits for a pass after getting inside position on a defender. The Tigers will compete next week in the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament, with their opening game set for Monday at 5:30 against Georgiana.

Tigers top Opp 50-46

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and held on late to claim a hard fought 50-46 win over the Opp Bobcats, last Tuesday night in Elba.

The win upped the Tigers' record to 2-1, while the Bobcats slipped to 2-5 with the loss.

The Tigers came out ready to play and jumped out to an early 17-10 advantage, only to see the Bobcats hang tough and cut the lead to 36-33 by the end of the third quarter. Elba battled for every bucket in the final stanza and turned back a late Opp rally to hold on and claim the 50-46 win.

John Mitchell scored 22 points to lead Elba, while Tim Andrews and Marcus Henderson both added 8. Josh Coleman led the Bobcats with 14 points.

E 17 10 9 14 - 50
O 10 13 10 13 - 46

Elba (50): English 6, Andrews 8, Henderson 8, Brooks 6, Mitchell 22.

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SPORTS

Lose to Opp and New Brockton

Elba Lady Tigers stumble on court

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the court twice last week and came out on the short end of the score in both games as their record slipped to 2-2 on the young season.

The Lady Tigers opened the week with a 49-48 loss to Opp, then dropped a 59-51 decision to New Brockton, with both losses coming at home.

Following are highlights of last week's action:

OPP 49
ELBA 48

The Elba Lady Tigers watched as Opp converted a free-throw with only one-second left on the clock to lift the Lady Bobcats to a wild 49-48 win, last Tuesday night in Elba.

Elba got off to a slow start in the game and trailed 18-9 after

one quarter of action, and could never cut into the Lady Bobcat lead, as Opp carried a big 44-34 advantage into the final stanza. The Lady Tigers picked up the intensity on both ends of the court in the final stanza and pulled even at 48-48 late, only to see Opp pull out the win with the last-second free-throw.

Rachel Bludsworth scored 17 points and Ayonna Proctor added 13 to lead Elba, while Osborn scored 17 to lead Opp.

OPP 18 10 16 5 - 49
ELBA 9 9 16 14 - 48

Opp (49): Mikel 1, Crittenden 12, Birge 12, Mack 7, Osborn 17.

Elba (48): Bludsworth 17, Mack 7, Proctor 13, Lawford 3, Ware 8.

Kinston Junior High takes home consolation honors in tourney

Kinston Junior High competed in the 1st annual Enterprise Ledger-Holiday Junior High Basketball Classic last week and bounced back from opening round losses to Enterprise Junior High to defeat New Brockton to claim consolation honors in both the boys and girls division.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

8TH GRADE BOYS

OPENING ROUND:
ENTERPRISE 63
KINSTON 22

The Kinston Bulldogs fell behind early and never recovered as they dropped their tournament opener to the Enterprise Junior Wildcats 63-22. The Bulldogs trailed 18-4 after one quarter and never threatened against the talented Wildcats. Ramsey Phillips scored 11 points to lead Kinston, while Raven Gray led Enterprise with 13.

CONSOLATION GAME:
KINSTON 25
NEW BROCKTON 23

The Kinston Bulldogs claimed consolation honors with an exciting 25-23 win over the New Brockton Gamecocks. The Bulldogs pulled ahead in the second quarter and held on late to down the Gamecocks and take home the third place trophy.

phy, Chad Bedsole scored 9 points to lead Kinston, while Ramsey Phillips added 7 and Anthony Weeks scored 5. Marcus Johnson led New Brockton with 8 points.

9TH GRADE GIRLS

OPENING ROUND:
ENTERPRISE 47
KINSTON 30

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs battled hard for all four quarters in a 47-30 loss to the Enterprise Junior Lady Wildcats. Ramsi Smith scored 16 points and Brittany Hunko added 10 to lead Kinston, while Kara Hunter led Enterprise with 18 points.

CONSOLATION GAME:
KINSTON 30
NEW BROCKTON 20

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs pulled ahead early and held on late to down the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks 30-20, to take home consolation honors. The Lady Bulldogs owned a 9-4 lead after one stanza, and by the end of the third quarter had the win in the bag as they led 24-9. New Brockton staged a late rally, but Kinston easily held on for the big 30-20 win. Brittany Hunko and Ramsi Smith scored 10 points each to lead Kinston, while Mandi Loupe added 6. Maressa Lowman scored 12 points to lead New Brockton.

High School Basketball SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec. 13
SEAC Tournament, in Highland Home

Friday, Dec. 14
SEAC Tournament, in Highland Home

Saturday, Dec. 15
SEAC Tournament, in Highland Home

Monday, Dec. 17
Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament

Tuesday, Dec. 18
Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament

Thursday, Dec. 20
Elba at Brantley (VG, VB) 6:00

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NEW BROCKTON 59

ELBA 51

The Elba Lady Tigers fell behind early and could never catch up as they dropped a 59-51 decision to the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks, Friday night in Elba.

New Brockton pulled out to a 19-16 lead in a high-scoring first quarter, and while the pace did slow in the second stanza, the Lady Gamecocks remained in charge and went in at the half with a 29-23 lead. The Lady

Tigers saw the deficit reach double digits early in the second half, but began a rally and led by the scoring of Ayonna Proctor and Kerri Lawford helped Elba close to within 45-39 heading into the fourth quarter. Lawford pulled the Lady Tigers within

45-41 early the final quarter, however, the Lady Gamecocks converted on 12 of 18 free-throws in the fourth quarter to turn back the Lady Tigers and claim the 59-51 win.

Ayonna Proctor scored 17 points to lead Elba, while Kerri Lawford added 9 and Denae Ware scored 8. Rena Donaldson scored 21 points to lead New Brockton and Kendra Cole added 16.

NB 19 10 16 14 - 59
EL 16 7 16 12 - 51

N.B. (59): Smith 7, Eubanks 8, Lawson 5, J. Donaldson 2, R. Donaldson 21, Cole 16.

Elba (51): Bludsworth 6, Mack 4, Proctor 17, Lawford 9, Ware 8.



BENJI HUTCHISON OF ELBA is pictured with a deer he killed near Elba on November 17, 2001. The 9-point buck weighed in at 182 lbs.

Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben
by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

You don't have to climb a tree to bag a deer

I can remember well my mother's advice concerning my academic shortcomings, "If you would study your lessons as much as you read those outdoor magazine stories, your grades would be better," she said. A review of my transcripts confirm she was giving good advice.

One thing that stands out vividly in my memory about the deer hunting stories was that the hunters were hunting from the ground. They were not perched on a limb or in a chair that had been modified to clamp around a tree twenty feet above the ground. Jack O'Connor, the dean of the old-time outdoor writers, hunted the country from south Florida to Canada. Many pictures of Jack hunting trophy deer have graced the pages of these same magazines, but I do not remember a single one of him perched in a tree waiting for his quarry to arrive.

Now don't get me wrong, there is absolutely nothing wrong with hunting from elevated stands. I have hunted from such stands all my life and plan to do so in the future, but it seems many southern hunters haven't experienced the age-old tradition of still-hunting.

Beginning hunters often confuse still-hunting and stand hunting. Stand hunting is just that: taking a stand and hunting from the stand for the duration of the hunt. Still-hunting on the other hand is the art of moving ever so quietly and slowly through the woods, stopping often to look and listen for game.

The same still hunting principles can be used in either squirrel hunting or deer hunting. True, more precautions and planning are in order when after deer, such as reducing body odor, checking wind direction, etc. but the method is basically the same.

I learned to still-hunt from a friend many years my senior, Charley Clark Sr., with whom I spent Saturday mornings working on his farm. Around 2:00 p.m. we would abandon the farm chores and head for the oak flats on the backside of his farm to hunt bushy-tails. Charlie didn't hunt that often but he had mastered the art of still-hunting for squirrels. "Move slowly, don't step on sticks, and learn to become one with the woods," was Charley's advice.

Compact binoculars are almost a must for the serious still hunter. They will help one pickup that slight twitch of a tail or ear. Scan the woods looking for the tell tale horizontal lines of a deer's back in an otherwise world of vertical lines consisting of trees and bushes.

Clothing is another critical item in the still hunter. If it is warm, cotton garments are satisfactory, but if it's cool, wool is hard to beat. Many of the synthetic fleece garments are also exceptionally quiet.

If you get bored sitting in that luxurious deer condo or climbing stand with all its bells and whistles, give still hunting a try, and as Charley said, "Become one with the woods."

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INSIDE

Dear Santa
letters in
Section B and
on Page 7



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